



State of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations
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NEWS RELEASE

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RIDE names three Providence schools as 2012 R.I. Green Ribbon Schools

The R.I. Department of Education (RIDE) has selected three Providence schools as the 2012 Rhode Island Green Ribbon Schools. Our Green Ribbon Schools are:

- Classical High School;
- Nathan Bishop Middle School; and
- Providence Career and Technical Academy.

“With this award, RIDE recognizes schools that have a minimal impact on the environment, that have a positive effect on the health of students and staff, and that provide effective environmental awareness to their students,” said George D. Caruolo, Chairman of the Board of Regents for Elementary and Secondary Education. “I would like to congratulate and recognize Providence Schools Superintendent Susan Lusi and the principals of each school for their commitment to the health and safety of their students and staff.”

“Green schools, such as our 2012 Green Ribbon Schools, are excellent environments for students and great investments for our communities,” said Deborah A. Gist, Commissioner of Elementary and Secondary Education. “Green schools are high-quality learning environments and they save taxpayer dollars - through economies during construction and through long-term savings on energy and utility costs. Green schools can also serve as models for student explorations in science, ecology, engineering, and other career and technical fields. We’re proud that Rhode Island has been at the forefront of the green-school movement.”

“Preserving our environment is a critical aspect of school construction and renovations,” said Providence Schools Superintendent Susan F. Lusi. “I am pleased and proud that these schools serve as a model for those efforts to reduce the environmental footprint of our buildings while providing a top-quality learning environment for students.”

A nine-member panel, made up of representatives from the Department of Health, the Emergency Management Agency, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, the Rhode Island Environmental Education Association, and RIDE, selected the Green Ribbon Schools.

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Green Ribbon Schools is a pilot program that the U.S. Department of Education began this school year (2011-12) to recognize schools that save energy, reduce costs, feature environmentally sustainable learning spaces, protect health, foster wellness, and offer environmental education to boost academic achievement and community engagement.

RIDE will nominate the three Rhode Island Green Ribbon Schools for consideration for a national Green Ribbon School recognition. The U.S. Department of Education is expected to announce national Green Ribbon Schools recognition awards on April 23.

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